

## Around the Traps: Autumn 2019

### Corowa – West Hume Landcare:

It is always good to hear of myna control developments in new areas and to provide any support that we can. So we have been delighted to hear from Sally Hughes of Corowa District Landcare that together with West Hume Landcare and with funding from the NSW Dept of Primary Industries and Landcare NSW, they are wanting to get on top of the myna problem that is emerging in their area. We wish them all the best – it is too nice an area to be inundated with Indian Mynas. Hopefully we will hear some good news from Sally in the near future that a program has now been initiated with promotional support of the local council.

### New Zealand Happenings



Meanwhile, across the Ditch, the New Zealanders are continuing their program of combatting mynas together with a host of other pest animals. I was interested to hear from Adrian Gilbert of Whangarei, who has been providing PeeGes traps to people since 2011, that his trappers have reported the capture of 20,310 mynas as at Dec 2018. A remarkable figure and indicative of the number of mynas over there. While we all know of the problem of possums, stoats and weasels over there, Adrian also mentions that their list of pest animals include the Australian Magpie. The NZ Department of Conservation some years ago listed Mynas and Magpies as the threats to the Kakupa (NZ Native Wood Pigeon) as both prey on its eggs and chicks. Similarly with the lovely NZ Tui.



### Cairns

Speaking of active communities, the Cairns group is still myna-busting in a big way. They have now handed out around 1800 traps. They calculate that each trap would catch on average 47 mynas, so the assumed total captures is a remarkable 85,000 birds. Their success has meant that the Cook Shire Council, based around Cooktown in the very far north, has requested the Cairns group to run a training workshop for Council staff and residents – mynas have now clearly become a problem that far north.

### News from Susana

On the alarming news of mynas spreading, Susana Saavedra from the Canary Islands mentions that mynas are now in Egypt. Susana, who is our international pacesetter, has also mentioned that she has been tackling another highly invasive species, the Indian Ring-necked Parakeet. She has eliminated them from two islands in the Canary Islands.